

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY USAEC:IP:IAEA:JWCLIFFORD

APPROVED BY SCI - H.D. BREWSTER

USAEC:IP:PPA:HDBENGELSDORF

EUR/RPE - A.T. LIEBOWITZ

EA/J - R.L. DANKERT

IO/SCT - L. THOMPSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

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SUBJECT: REGULATORY STANDARDS FOR NUCLEAR POWER

1. FOLLOWING INFORMATION NEEDED BY DECEMBER 20 FOR USE
IN CONNECTION URGENT USAEC STUDY:

A. SUMMARY COMPARISON BY HOST COUNTRY AUTHORITIES OF
THEIR NATIONAL NUCLEAR SAFETY REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS WITH
IAEA STANDARDS, REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES FOR (1) POWER
REACTORS; (2) FUEL MINING AND MILLING, REPROCESSING,
CONVERSION AND FABRICATION FACILITIES; (3) TRANSPORT OF
RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS; AND (4) RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT,
TAKING INTO ACCOUNT EXTENT TO WHICH COUNTRIES HAVE
COOPERATED IN DEVELOPMENT IAEA STANDARDS AND HAVE ACCEPTED
THEM FOR APPLICATION TO IAEA-ASSISTED PROJECTS.

B. SIMILAR COMPARISON BETWEEN HOST COUNTRY AND U.S.
NUCLEAR ENVIRONMENTAL AND SAFETY STANDARDS, TO THE
DEGREE HOST GOVERNMENTS HAVE DRAWN ANY SUCH COMPARISONS,
ARE FAMILIAR WITH U.S. REGULATIONS AND ARE WILLING TO COMMENT.
COPIES OF HOST COUNTRY'S REGULATORY STANDARDS WOULD BE
APPRECIATED VIA AIR POUCH ATTENTION J.W. CLIFFORD, DIVISION
OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS, USAEC.

C. WHETHER HOST COUNTRY REQUIRES PREPARATION AND
CONSIDERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS
CONCERNING EACH PROPOSED NUCLEAR POWER INSTALLATION, CONSISTING
OF DETAILED ANALYSIS OF PROBABLE EFFECTS OF INSTALLATION ON
ENVIRONMENTAL AND EVALUATION OF ALTERNATIVES TO SUCH
INSTALLATION.

D. RE COMMERCIAL SIZE NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS IN EACH
COUNTRY, NOTABLY THOSE OF U.S. DESIGN, CAN YOU PROVIDE
INDICATION OF PERFORMANCE WHICH HAS BEEN CHARACTERISTIC OF
PLANTS TO DATE? SPECIFICALLY, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO KNOW
PLANT SIZE, ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION ACTUALLY
ACCOMPLISHED (KWH), PLANT FACTOR (RATIO OF POWER PRODUCED
DURING YEAR TO THAT WHICH COULD HAVE BEEN PRODUCED HAD PLANT
OPERATED CONTINUOUSLY AT FULL POWER) AND PLANT AVAILABILITY
FACTOR (FRACTION OF TIME PLANT WAS CAPABLE OF PRODUCING
FULL POWER, REGARDLESS OF DEMAND FOR POWER), FOR 1973 AND
ANY PRIOR YEAR BACK TO 1970.

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E. ALSO OF INTEREST WOULD BE BRIEF STATEMENT OF
EXPERIENCE WITH ANY ACCIDENTS OR MAJOR OUTAGES AT EACH PLANT
WHERE SUCH OCCURRED AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF SUCH
INCIDENTS.

F. FYI: APPRECIATE SOME COUNTRIES MAY ONLY NOW BE
DEVELOPING THE REGULATIONS AND IN OTHER CASES THEY MAY BE

UNABLE OR RELUCTANT TO DRAW COMPARISONS. IF SO, WE WOULD BE
HAPPY TO RECEIVE ANY REFERENCES TO EXISTING PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS
THAT MAY APPLY. HOST GOVERNMENTS SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT DRAW
ANY INFERENCES FROM OUR DESIRE TO DRAW COMPARISON WITH IAEA
STANDARDS, OR IMPLICATION WE NECESSARILY FAVOR LATTER
OVER APPLICABLE DOMESTIC REGULATIONS. WE ARE SIMPLY SEEKING
COMMON BASIS FOR ANALYSIS IN INTEREST OF FORMULATING
GENERAL OVERVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL FRAMEWORK THAT APPLIES TO
NATIONS WITH WHOM WE COOPERATE. END FYI.

G. FOR EC BRUSSELS - WOULD HOPE YOU CAN PROVIDE SUMMARY
REPORT DRAWING ON INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO YOU FOR EC
COUNTRIES NOT LISTED AS ACTION ADDRESSEES.
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